

Solar initiative launches for Navy, Marine homes

Becker Communications

Karen S. Spangler
Managing Editor, Ho`okele

Representatives from Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe, Forest City Military Communities and SolarCity celebrated the beginning of a solar project for military homes in Hawaii during a ceremony May 8 at MCBH. The ceremony included a traditional Hawaiian blessing.

Construction has started on the first phase of the solar project which will provide solar electricity to 6,500 military family residences at Navy Region Hawaii and Marine Corps Base Hawaii.

The latest SolarStrong™ project is scoped for a planned 24 megawatts (MW) of generation capacity, which would make it the largest SolarCity has undertaken to date.



Photo courtesy of SolarCity
Col. Brian Annichiarico, commanding officer at Marine Corps Base Hawaii (MCBH), signs the last PV solar panel before it is installed to complete the first phase of the five-year SolarStrong project, a planned 24-megawatt PV solar installation at MCBH.

SolarCity and Forest City have finished installing the first 700 kilowatts of solar capacity at Marine Corps Base Hawaii and will soon initiate the first installations at Navy Region Hawaii. The new projects at Marine Corps Base Hawaii and Navy Region Hawaii are expected to reduce Hawaii's dependence on the imported oil it uses to produce the majority of its electricity.

"Top Navy leaders support these initiatives because we are stronger, safer and less vulnerable when we embrace renewable energy and support sustainability—in all of our communities," said Rear Adm. Frank Ponds, commander of Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific.

"We need to diversify our energy resources, and we need to build strong partnerships. For example, through the joint energy

security initiative here in Hawaii we have a strong commitment to solar energy as well as other promising alternative and renewable energy sources and solutions," he added.

"We are moving forward together at every opportunity to promote sustainability and security. This is the right thing to do for the Navy, for Hawaii and for the nation—not only now, but also for generations to come," Ponds said.

The projects will help the state of Hawaii make a significant advance toward its ambitious Clean Energy Initiative goal to use 70 percent clean energy, including 40 percent renewable energy, by 2030. The project will also help the Department of Defense, currently the largest energy consumer in the United States, make

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PACAF commander conducts transnational dialogue at APCSS

Story and photo by Staff Sgt. Nathan Allen

Pacific Air Forces Public Affairs

Gen. Hawk Carlisle, commander of Pacific Air Forces, visited the Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies in Honolulu, Hawaii recently to discuss security cooperation in the Pacific theater and beyond with "international fellows" from several partner nations.

The APCSS, established Sept. 4, 1995, is a Department of Defense institute that addresses regional and global security issues while building relationships among future leaders and decision-makers within the region through a comprehensive program of executive education and conferences.

During the briefing, Carlisle discussed topics

including PACAF strategy, the military's rebalance to the Asian-Pacific region, and the importance of transnational coordination and cooperation to overcome challenges.

"The size and diversity, the cultural differences, the climate differences, the environments that everyone lives in (the Pacific) theater does make this a unique theater," he said.

"Despite the differences, most nations understand that international cooperation when covering just about any threat is dependent upon interaction with your fellow nations. We know all these are the things we face every day."

Retired U.S. Air Force Lt. Gen. Dan Leaf, APCSS director, said that involving Carlisle as well as other PACOM component command leaders is extremely beneficial to the international



Gen. Herbert "Hawk" Carlisle (left), commander of Pacific Air Forces, walks with retired Air Force Lt. Gen. Dan Leaf, Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies director, after Carlisle's arrival at the APCSS in Honolulu, Hawaii.

students who participate in APCSS events.

"We work closely with (Pacific Command) and all of the components to support their missions and conduct our work consistent with their priorities and objectives," Leaf said. "We have been fortunate to have all of them participate in various events at the center."

One benefit of holding these kinds of transnational dialogues, Carlisle said, is the development of a shared strategy to overcome the borderless challenge of combating non-state actors.

"We still have sovereign issues on borders and state to state discussions," he said. "Non-state actors—piracy, terrorism, trafficking—do not. If we, as a group of nations, are going to deal with these things, we

See APCSS, A-2

JBPHH to crack down on distracted driving violations

Brandon Bosworth

Staff Writer

Distracted driving remains a major problem throughout the U.S., in Hawaii and at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. Locally, distracted drivers caused nearly 10 percent of auto fatalities in the years 2007-2010, according to the state Department of Health.

The use of cell phones while driving is especially dangerous. Using a cell phone while driving on JBPHH is prohibited. The consequences for violating this rule can be serious.

"In the very near future, safety traffic violations such as using cell phones while driving will result in the automatic suspension of driving privileges in the installation for up to 30 days," said Lt. j.g. John J. Caicedo, assistant operations officer, JBPHH Security Department, Operations.

"This suspension will occur immediately when the officer issues the citation along with a suspension of driving privileges letter."

Base security officers will be carrying suspension of driving privileges letters pre-signed by Capt. Jeffrey James, commander of Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.



Photo courtesy of Distraction.gov

JBPHH is instituting tough new rules against the use of cell phones while driving.

"There are local laws in place against distracted driving," said James. "But we're taking it a step further at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. We are holding people accountable if they violate base traffic rules."

"No one can effectively talk on a cell phone and drive or text and drive," said James. "It puts people at unnecessary risk."

The risks of using a cell phone while driving are well established. The National Safety Council estimates 25 percent of all crashes involve cell phone use. Texting while driving has replaced drinking while

See SUSPENSION, A-7

USS Reuben James returns



U.S. Navy photos by MC2 Tiarra Fulgham

The guided-missile frigate USS Reuben James (FFG-57) passes the missing man formation as it arrives at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam on May 3 after completing its final deployment.

(Above) Lt. Nate Martinez salutes his 11-year-old son as the guided-missile frigate USS Reuben James (FFG-57) returns from a seven-month deployment to the western Pacific region. Reuben James is scheduled to be decommissioned later this year after 27 years of service.

Rear Adm. Ponds to command ESG 3

Rear Adm. (lower half) Frank L. Ponds, commander of Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, will be assigned as commander, Expeditionary Strike Group Three, San Diego, Calif. The announcement was made Thursday by Secretary of the Navy Ray Mabus and Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Jonathan W. Greenert.



U.S. Pacific Fleet welcomes new fleet master chief
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Recognizing 'grace and resolve' of military spouses
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New mentoring program provides Airmen with tools for success
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Squadrons honor key spouses
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'Solid...steady...true down to the core' Toby Keith performs free concert at JBPHH
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May 20 program at joint base to highlight women in Hawaiian history
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U.S. Pacific Fleet welcomes new fleet master chief

U.S. Pacific Fleet Public Affairs

U.S. Pacific Fleet recently welcomed a new fleet master chief at the Pacific Fleet headquarters.

Command Master Chief Marco Ramirez officially relieved Fleet Master Chief John Minyard in a ceremony attended by Adm. Cecil D. Haney, commander of U.S. Pacific Fleet.

"This job has been one of the most challenging jobs in the fleet, just because of the sheer area of responsibility," said Minyard.

"We have 100 million square miles of ocean and commands from the east coast of the United States to the east coast of Africa. Every region and every area is different, but the one thing that hasn't changed is the dedication and commitment of our Sailors. That's what I think I'll miss



U.S. Navy photo by MCI Amanda Dunford
Outgoing Fleet Master Chief John Minyard, (left) pins the fleet master chief insignia onto oncoming Fleet Master Chief Marco Ramirez during the fleet master chief turnover as Adm. Cecil D. Haney, commander of U.S. Pacific Fleet, presides over the ceremony.

the most," he said.

Minyard, who reported in June 2009 after being the command master chief at U.S. 3rd Fleet, talked about the constant changes in the Navy and his concerns for Sailors.

"Today's work environment is challenging. What the Sailors are doing each and every day is in the news. They're worried about the budget, about job security, the constant changes in personnel systems and programs," said Minyard.

"It's easy for Sailors to become distracted from what their primary job is—being ready to go to sea and fight the next war."

Minyard, who is retiring after 29 years of service, noted how much he enjoyed being the Pacific Fleet's fleet master chief.

"I enjoyed the challenge, but as I look back and reflect, I really enjoyed the Sailors, experienc-

ing their views and challenges and being able to be a part of this extremely elite team," he said.

He added that words will never express the appreciation he has for them and their families for what they do every day.

Prior to this assignment, Ramirez served as the U.S. 6th Fleet command master chief in Naples, Italy.

"I'm proud to join this mighty team," said Ramirez. "I look forward to advancing our nation's interests across the Pacific Fleet with a focus on readiness."

The U.S. Pacific Fleet, the world's largest fleet command, encompasses 100 million square miles, more than half the Earth's surface, from the west coast of the United States into the Indian Ocean. The Pacific Fleet consists of approximately 180 ships, nearly 2,000 aircraft and 140,000 Sailors and civilians.

Navy's Pacific Partnership 2013 mission to assist in Oceania

U.S. Pacific Fleet Public Affairs

The eighth iteration of the U.S. Pacific Fleet's annual Pacific Partnership mission will take place in the Oceania region over a four-month period beginning in May.

Host nations will include Samoa, Tonga, Republic of the Marshall Islands, Papua New Guinea, Kiribati and the Solomon Islands.

"The U.S. Pacific Fleet is always prepared for battle, but we also operate to preserve the peace," said Adm. Cecil D. Haney, commander of the Pacific Fleet. "Ultimately, missions such as Pacific Partnership strengthen relationships that are critical to deter conflict. They build trust, enhance cooperation, and open dialogues between leaders, a multi-lateral approach that benefits all nations including the United States."

Working at the invitation of each host nation, U.S. Navy forces will be joined by non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and regional partners that include Australia, Canada, France, Japan, Malaysia and New Zealand to improve maritime security, conduct humanitarian assistance,

and strengthen disaster response preparedness.

"Our Navy protects America through readiness to answer our nation's call, in providing forward-pres-

"I am proud to be leading a mission where military and civilian professionals will be working side-by-side to make a real difference for the people of our Pacific Island host nations."

- U.S. Navy Capt. Wallace Lovely

ence, and by strengthening regional partnerships. Pacific Partnership does all three by preparing in calm to swiftly respond during crisis," Haney said.

Born out of the devastation wrought by the 2004 tsunami that swept through parts of Southeast Asia, Pacific Partnership began as a military-led humanitarian response to one of the world's most catastrophic natural disasters. Building on the success and goodwill of this operation, the hospital ship USNS Mercy returned to the region in

2006 for the inaugural Pacific Partnership mission. The mission staff expanded to include partner nation militaries and NGOs working to increase the disaster relief capabilities of Bangladesh, Indonesia, the Philippines and East Timor.

Since then, Pacific Partnership has grown in scope and size. From eight partner nations and eight NGOs in 2006, last year's mission included 13 partner nations, 28 NGOs, four U.S. agencies and a joint effort across the Department of Defense.

"All these partners understand that we must place capability-building at the center of our efforts by collectively working with host nations desiring to improve first response when disaster strikes," Haney said.

"As we witnessed in 2011 when an earthquake and tsunami devastated our allies in Japan, it is not a question of 'if' disasters will occur in this region, but very much a matter of 'when.'"

"Everywhere I travel, military and civilian leaders all agree about the necessity of being able to work together to respond quickly and effectively to any disaster. In the Indo-Asia-Pacific

region, where long-standing divisive issues can occasionally cause friction between nations, Pacific Partnership is a stabilizing, unifying mission that everyone can enthusiastically support," Haney said.

U.S. Navy Capt. Wallace Lovely, commander of Hawaii-based Destroyer Squadron 31, will lead this year's mission from the amphibious dock landing ship USS Pearl Harbor (LSD 52). The Australian ship HMAS Tobruk and the New Zealand ship HMNZS Canterbury will also serve as command platforms.

"Pacific Partnership 2013 will be the first mission where our partner nations lead individual phases," said Lovely. "Australia will lead in Papua New Guinea,

New Zealand will lead in both Kiribati and Solomon Islands, while the United States leads in Samoa, Tonga and the Marshall Islands. Sharing of lead responsibilities and logistical resourcing among partner nations will keep this incredibly impactful mission sustainable in light of future fiscal challenges. I could not be more proud of the multi-lateral planning effort that has gone into this year's mission. It has been a true team effort," Lovely added.

Partner nation naval forces and government agencies, NGOs and host nation planning efforts have focused on utilizing professionals in the fields of medicine, dentistry, veterinary, public health services,

engineering and disaster response.

"We are excited about building on the foundation of previous Pacific Partnership missions and demonstrating our commitment to the Oceania region," Lovely said. "Pacific Partnership represents a lasting return on investment for all participating nations and organizations by helping to ensure the international community is better prepared to work together as a coordinated team when disaster strikes."

"I am proud to be leading a mission where military and civilian professionals will be working side-by-side to make a real difference for the people of our Pacific Island host nations," Lovely said.

APCSS dialogue helps cooperation

Continued from A-1

have to be more transparent. We have to be more interoperable, and we have to work more closely together."

Leaf said APCSS alumni are currently leading countries as heads-of-state, chiefs of defense and other key diplomatic and ministerial posts. With that in mind, he said, the exchange was valuable, both for Carlisle and the international fellows.

"Exchanges give senior Air Force leadership the opportunity to get perspectives from a wide array of up-and-coming regional

and world leaders," Leaf said.

"Gen. Carlisle demonstrated the transparency that we stress in our courses and gave direct answers to some very difficult questions. I believe that he left a lasting impression on the class, demonstrating the U.S. Air Force's commitment to peace, stability and prosperity in the Asia-Pacific region."

When discussing how to devise a security strategy, Carlisle re-emphasized finding a way to work with neighboring nations, an endeavor that requires multiple parties to find

common ground.

"The defense of your nation is largely dependent upon your ability to interact with nations around you — building cooperation, building whatever common ground there is, building a strategy for what you want to look like in the future, and then bringing that to fruition," Carlisle said.

"I can guarantee that every nation in this theater can find common ground. At the very least, (our shared) objective in life is to hand to our children, and our children's children, a better world to live in."

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Diverse Views



Just in time for Mother's Day this Sunday: "What's the most valuable thing you learned from your mother?"

Aviation Machinist's Mate 2nd Class
Jeremy E. Hacker
VP-9



"Resiliency. To stay strong and not let things get you down. There is always going to be a better day."



Master Sgt. Wilda Shigeta
154th Maintenance Operations Flight,
HIANG

"The most valuable thing I've learned from my mother is to have faith in everything that I do and to give unconditionally."

Aviation Machinist's Mate Airman
Michael A. Jovel
VP-9



"Family values. Just ensuring there was always family cohesiveness and, despite whatever happens, you always have each other."



Master Sgt. Allison Korzun
HQ PACAF

"The most valuable thing that I learned from my mother is that you must work hard for everything in life. Simply put, nothing is ever given to you and that 'the grass isn't always greener on the other side.'"

Lt. j.g. Jameson L. Gay
VP-9



"Treat others like you'd like to be treated."



Serena Thomas
747th Communications Squadron

"Whatever you think you'll miss when you leave here, it'll be here for you when you get back." I left for the Navy 26 years ago.

Lt. j.g. Jamille M. Desiderio
VP-9



"The value of hard work and the ability to make something out of nothing. When my mother came from the Philippines she had nothing and had created a whole new life for my family by the time we arrived here."



Capt. Bryan Ewing
647th Contracting Squadron

"From my mother and grandmother I learned if you want to achieve anything, you'll have to work hard for it. Oh yeah, I was also taught to go to church and always have on clean underwear. Good Southern values!"

Personnel Specialist Seaman
Ricardo Nazaire
VP-9



"The most valuable thing that I learned from my mother is that even though I come from a small state like New Jersey, I should respect anyone and everyone I meet along the way. From what I've learned, respect goes a very long way and needless to say, I am greatly appreciative of a lesson like this that continues to take me far."



Specialist Mitchell Teeters
5th Engineer Detachment

"From my mother, I learned that there is always love to give to everyone. It doesn't matter who they are or where they are from. Everyone deserves love."

Aviation Maintenance Administrationman 2nd Class
Thomas J. St. Pierre
VP-9



"To stay focused and feel fortunate for what you got. She motivates me for what she has accomplished with where she has come from."



Yeoman 2nd Class Sheliat Y. Raji
VP-9

"To always be myself and go after all of my dreams."

Aircrew Survival Equipmentman Airman
Michael P. Stoedter
VP-9



"Helping others, and whenever I am about to do something I stop and I ask myself whether it's something she would do."

(Provided by Lt. j.g. Rebecca Shaw and David Underwood Jr.)

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Got opinions to share?

Drop us a line at editor@hookelenews.com or karen.spangler@navy.mil

Commentary

Recognizing 'grace and resolve' of military spouses



Rear Adm. Frank Ponds

Commander, Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific

In May, many Americans turn their focus and attention on the contributions of the military. Among recognition highlights this month—such as VE Day (May 8th), Armed Forces Day (May 18th) and Memorial Day (May 27th)—the nation recognizes the Friday before Mother's Day as Military Spouse Appreciation Day. Today, May 10, we honor

what President Barack Obama calls, "the unparalleled contributions of our military spouses."

Think for a moment of military spouses' commitment and contributions. Wives and husbands endure frequent and sometimes long deployments, they deal with career-disrupting moves, and they often take the lead in child rearing and teaching. Our spouses are our co-pilots and navigators, our best critics and most trusted advisors.

President Ronald Reagan designated the first

Military Spouse Appreciation Day 29 years ago. In 2013 First Lady Michelle Obama and Second Lady Dr. Jill Biden remind us of the service and sacrifice of military spouses who deal with deployments and other challenges of military life, with "grace and resolve." Their Joining Forces national campaign is supported by private sector businesses as a way to help in job searches, not only for veterans but also for spouses.

Here in Hawaii, we are very fortunate to have strong support in the civilian community, including from local businesses. Throughout Military Appreciation Month—at concerts, luncheons and Family Day at the Zoo—

our military service members and their families are approached and told how much they are appreciated.

We are thankful that the people of Hawaii understand the role of the military as part of the Hawaii *ohana*. Increasingly, our friends and neighbors are also becoming more aware of the importance of our spouses in meeting our mission here in the Pacific.

People who know about the service, sacrifice and separations of military families understand the significant contributions of our dedicated and devoted spouses. We appreciate you, and we salute you! Thank you for your grace and resolve. *Mahalo nui loa na ho'olaule'a me la kaua.*

Military Appreciation Month events planned in May

Military Appreciation Month is observed and celebrated each May to provide the people of the nation with an opportunity to publicly express thanks to military service members.

Several events on Oahu have been scheduled to commemorate Military Appreciation Month. They include:

- May 10, noon to 1 p.m.

The U.S. Air Force Pacific Band-Hawaii group "Hana Hou" will perform at Tamarind Square, Honolulu. The event is free and open to the public.

- May 10, 7:30 p.m. Henry Kapono will perform a concert titled "I'm Coming Home — A Salute to Our Troops" at Hawaii Theatre. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. For information on the con-

cert and to purchase tickets, call 528-0506 or visit the website www.hawaiiitheatre.com.

- May 19, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Family Day at Honolulu Zoo. The event is free for military and their families. Family members can park at Kapiolani Community College Diamond Head Campus and take a free

shuttle to the zoo.

- May 30, 7:30 to 9 a.m., "Celebrating the Military Family" at Hilton Hawaiian Village Coral Ballroom. Congresswoman Tulsi Gabbard is scheduled to speak. The Marine Forces Pacific Band, a color guard and Henry Kapono are scheduled to participate.

For more information, visit <http://ow.ly/kQEYH>.

Solar project emphasizes sustainability, energy security

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additional progress toward its goal to have 25 percent of its energy requirements met by renewable energy by 2025.

"This project not only benefits our military *ohana*, it reduces our energy costs which directly affect how our taxpayer's dollar is spent," said Col. Brian Annichiarico, commanding officer, MCBH.

"Additionally, it reduces our reliance on foreign oil and helps contribute to Hawaii's goal to generate 40 percent clean energy from locally generated renewables by 2030," he said.

Forest City is a leading developer and manager of distinctive and diversified real estate projects, with properties in 26 states and the District of

Columbia. The company currently manages military family housing units in eight states from Hawaii to South Carolina for the Navy, Marine Corps and Air Force under the Armed Forces' Public-Private Venture (PPV) Privatized Family Housing program.

"Our partnership with SolarCity on this renewable energy initiative is a strong positive for the military and for the environment. Sustainability is a corporate core value at Forest City," said Thomas Henneberry, president of Forest City Military Communities. "This is our first involvement with the SolarStrong project, and we're hopeful to find opportunities to expand it to other portions of our portfolio."

"Project by project, our SolarStrong initiative is assisting the Department

of Defense's impressive effort to change the way our nation's military consumes energy," said Lyndon Rive, SolarCity CEO.

"The road to the department's goal of 25 percent renewable energy by 2025 is being paved, in part, with solar panels by sustainable developers such as Forest City," Rive said.

In addition to SolarStrong, SolarCity is pursuing a veteran hiring initiative as part of its Workforce Development program. The company has hired more than 100 veterans this year in various positions within the company including IT, sales, managerial, administration, design and installation.

(Editor's note: See Adm. Ponds commentary on energy security in the May 3 edition of Ho'okele, page A-3.

Commanding general inspects Luke Field



Photo courtesy of the Hawaii Department of Transportation
Charles P. Summerall, commanding general of the Hawaiian Department, inspects Luke Field, Ford Island, Hawaii during his command. He was commanding general from 1921-1924.

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New mentoring program provides Airmen with tools for success

Story and photo by
Staff Sgt. Terri Paden

15th Wing Public Affairs

What do you get when you cross junior Airmen with seasoned non-commissioned officers? The answer is the new 15th Wing Staff Agency Airmen Mentoring Program.

A group of 15 Wing Airmen gathered at Hickam Harbor recently to gather the tools necessary to shape their careers as future NCOs.

The new monthly mentoring program, initiated by 15 Wing Command Chief, Chief Master Sgt. Leslie Bramlett, is a top down effort intended to provide junior Airmen and NCOs with the information necessary for successful career progression.

For April's session, wing staff agency (WSA) Airmen, ranks airman basic through senior airman, were treated to a beachside gathering at Hickam Beach to discuss the importance of interper-

sonal communication.

The training, hosted by Staff Sgt. Thomas Hazlewood, 15th Wing Plans and Programs office, and facilitated by mental health technician Staff Sgt. Tamia Griffie, guided the junior Airmen through an interactive discussion on the connection between personality types and leadership styles. Hazlewood said the skill will be key for the young Airmen moving forward in their Air Force careers as future front-line supervisors.

"If you understand your supervisor's style of leadership, it makes it a lot easier to understand how to accomplish tasks and conduct yourself at work," he said.

"Also, understanding how to interact with conflicting personalities can make it easier on you as a leader to tailor your leadership style to suit your subordinate's needs and build a cohesive work environment. I think this is absolutely a skill they will need to use to conduct day-



Staff Sgt. Tamia Griffie, 15th Medical Operations Squadron mental health technician, discusses interpersonal communication with junior Airmen from the 15th Wing Staff Agencies during the monthly Airmen Mentoring session April 29 at Hickam Harbor at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

to-day operations for the rest of their careers," Hazlewood explained.

Hazlewood said the new mentoring program is an excellent way to reach out to young Airmen.

"Ultimately they are the

ones that are going to replace us. These are the front-line supervisors in two or three years and we have to train them to do our job," he said.

"We have to show them the way if we want them to be successful. That's why

mentorship is such a huge deal. If no one shows them, then how will they know? It's our job to show them what it means to be good NCOs, so we got to sit down and talk to them now."

"My first priority is to take

care of the mission," said Bramlett. "The second is to take care of our replacements. We want to develop Airmen from a professional perspective."

According to Bramlett, the new Airmen mentoring program is an active form of developing the Air Force's future leaders.

"We're so good with passive development in the Air Force," he said. "Any chief will sit down with any Airman that comes to them for mentoring, but active development is going to Airmen and offering them all the information."

In an effort to become more proactive with mentoring Airmen, Bramlett charged wing senior NCOs with developing a program that would apply a hands-on approach. The result: a monthly Airmen mentoring session led by staff sergeants and an NCO session led by technical sergeants. The forum has quickly caught on with other units on base.

Navy Information Operations Command Hawaii Sailors hold 'Safe Ride'

Chief Cryptologic
Technician
(Interpretive)
Erich Keough

Navy Information
Operations Command
Hawaii Public Affairs

The streets of Oahu were abuzz with Sailors on April 25 as 22 motorcycle riders from Navy Information Operations Command (NIOC) Hawaii joined together for a "safe ride" event.

NIOC Hawaii's first ever Safe Ride consisted of Sailors riding a combination of cruisers and sports bikes while navigating Oahu city streets and highways from Wahiawa to Kaneohe Bay.

"Riders can learn more of the 'real life' experiences when riding on a safe ride



U.S. Navy photo by Lt. j.g. Kelli Hathaway

Sailors from Navy Information Operations Command Hawaii participate in "Safe Ride" on Oahu highways.

versus in classroom training," said Jack Hughes, the region coordinator for the Navy/Marine Corps Traffic Safety Program.

Hughes joined the Sailors for the day of riding and provided training at the start of the safe ride, as well as at designated stops in Ewa Beach and Kaneohe Bay.

"The classroom is always a great place to start and build the building blocks, but there is always more that you will come across on the roadways," Hughes said.

Recent increases in motorcycle-related accidents throughout the Navy have placed the focus on

motorcycle safety. Sailors participating on a safe ride are able to gain confidence and skills that they might not normally receive in a classroom environment.

Additionally, new riders on the safe ride had the opportunity to meet experienced riders and gain critical mentorship. "We have

had the car pull into our lane, had someone run a yellow [light] in front of us, or turn left directly in our path," Hughes explained. The 22 riders on the safe ride varied in experience from six months to more than 10 years.

NIOC Hawaii's safe ride also provided an opportuni-

ty for command motorcycle safety representatives to perform spot checks of personal protective equipment and required legal documentation for each rider.

According to the Navy Safety Center statistics, as of April 24, there have been 14 Navy Marine Corps motorcycle-related fatalities in FY 13.

"What we all really need to start doing is to watch out more while we are driving," said Hughes.

"We have no problem putting things off when we are watching a movie or swimming at the beach. If we can put off that phone call, text or email until we are done with these simple tasks, why would we not want to put them off for the 20-minute drive or ride?" he asked.

Pearl Harbor-Hickam *Highlights*



(Above) Chief Yeoman Darnell LaCour embraces his 3-year-old daughter after returning from a seven-month deployment to the western Pacific region aboard the guided-missile frigate USS Reuben James (FFG 57). Reuben James is scheduled to be decommissioned later this year after 27 years of service.



(Right) The guided-missile frigate USS Reuben James (FFG 57) arrives May 3 at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam after completing its final deployment.

U.S. Navy Photo by MC2 Tiarra Fulgham

(Below, below right) The 647th Air Base Group spent an afternoon competing in a gauntlet style competition May 3 at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. The 647th Civil Engineer Squadron retained their title for the second year in a row posting the fastest time. Teams competed in Air Force trivia, half mile run, flipping and dragging a C-17 Globemaster III tire, pushing a Humvee, bear crawling with 30-pound weighted backpack and sprinting to a slip and slide.

U.S. Air Force photos by Staff Sgt. Mike Meares



(Right) Hawaiian cultural consultant Shad Kane explains features of an ancient structure in the Kalaeloa Heritage Park site to Rear Adm. Frank Ponds, commander, Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, during a visit on May 2. The park is a relatively undisturbed, 77-acre parcel with more than 177 recorded cultural sites that consist of a *heiau* and other habitation sites located on land that was once part of the former Barbers Point Naval Air Station.

U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Nardel Cervacio



(Above) Col. Dann S. Carlson, 647th Air Base Group (ABG) commander (and deputy commander of Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam), says farewell to members of the 647th ABG at Hickam Memorial Theater on May 3. Carlson expressed his gratitude for having the opportunity to lead the men and women of the 647th ABG.

JBPBH photo by David D. Underwood Jr.

Members of the 624th Regional Support Group and the 647th Civil Engineering Squadron, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, work on the dock of the Battleship Missouri Memorial, restoring teak wood from the original decks of the USS Missouri.

U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Phyllis E. Keith



Air Force reservists help restore 'Mighty Mo'

Story and photo by Tech. Sgt. Phyllis E. Keith

624th Regional Support Group
Public Affairs

Six reservists from the 624th Regional Support Group (RSG) at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam recently spent the morning of their unit training assembly at the Battleship Missouri Memorial in Pearl Harbor, scraping and sanding planks of teak wood from the original decks of the USS Missouri.

The volunteer outing was organized by a cargo manager from the 48th Aerial Port Squadron, 624th RSG.

Master Sgt. Larry A. Castillo, a resident of Hawaii for 19 years and an active volunteer at the Battleship Missouri Memorial for the past 14 years, is a member of the 624th RSG's human resources development council (HRDC).

"We're always looking for community projects," said Castillo. HRDC is a program the Air

Force Reserves established in 1991 to help Airmen reach their fullest potential through mentoring, diversity awareness and community outreach.

"I hardly ever volunteer and I've always wanted to," said Senior Airman Samantha M. Bambino, a personnel specialist with the 624th RSG. "When this opportunity came up, I decided to go for it."

The group worked for three hours in the tropical heat. "It was hard work, but it was worth it," said Senior Airman Ritalynn D. Moss Celestine, a personnel specialist with the 624th RSG.

When the USS Missouri was in commission, 2,500 Sailors maintained it. Today, less than 25 ship maintenance staff work on it, according to www.ussmissouri.com.

"It was my first volunteer work for the Air Force Reserves," said Celestine. "We definitely need more people," she said.

The restored teak wood from the ship's deck is sold in the memorial's gift shop and helps fund the volun-



From left, Kevin Williamson, the director of volunteers for the Battleship Missouri Memorial, explains to volunteers from the 624th Regional Support Group, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, how the restoration of the teak wood from the original decks of the USS Missouri help fund and maintain the ship. (See additional photo on page A-5)

teer program and keep the ship open to the public, said Kevin Williamson, director of volunteers for the Battleship Missouri Memorial.

Castillo said he would like to organize another group from the unit to come out to the ship and lend a hand restoring the wood from the decks.

Individuals or groups interested in volunteering with the Battleship Missouri Memorial can complete an application at www.ussmissouri.com.

NIOC Sailors, community help with Pokai Bay beach clean-up

Story and photo by
CT12 Ron Garza

Navy Information
Operations Command
Hawaii

Sailors and family members from Navy Information Operations Command Hawaii, along with residents from the local community, recently participated in a beach cleanup at Pokai Bay.

Along the shoreline, trash bags were distributed to participants, who, armed with poles, sifting implements and their own hands, set out to sweep a solid half-mile stretch of sand.

Discarded cigarettes and aluminum cans were the most common refuse found strewn around the beach. As cleanup efforts on land began to finish, deeper in the water the divers worked, collaborating with paddleboarders and kayakers to dredge heavier garbage from the bottom of the bay.

After loading a board or kayak with mud-encrusted junk, the boarder or kayaker moved to the shore, offloaded the dirty mess into the hands



Sailors from Navy Information Operations Command Hawaii join the community for a beach cleanup at Pokai Bay.

of anyone willing to haul the scrap to a growing pile, and headed back out to collect more.

More than a dozen tires, a transmission, a muffler, a ragged sheet of metal, several car batteries, and bags of rusted cans and cables sat draining against a light pole near

the beach's parking area.

"It's pretty impressive," said Kaylee Barnes, wife of Cryptologic Technician ((Networks) 3rd Class Zachary Barnes, the event organizer. "One of the first dives, I remember he came home ... he goes, 'We took out 17 tires out of the bay in an

hour.' Like, on top of everything else they pulled out," Kaylee explained.

"This is half as much as what we pulled out in December," Zachary explained.

"It's obvious we're starting to make an impact on the environment out here," he said.

Barnes has been helping organize cleanup events at locations around Oahu, similar to Pokai Bay, for 16 consecutive months. The number of volunteers for the latest effort, a mix of military personnel and local residents from across the island, was the largest yet to help with the beach cleanup effort.

"It's not just us, you know," he said, gesturing at the volunteers with a wave of a hand. "The whole community is working together to make these things a success."

Included in that community was the Waianae-based business owner, George Kalilikane Jr., better known as Uncle George. "Because of what I do in sharing stand-up [paddle boarding], I use the water, the bay," he said, pointing to a group of paddleboarders pushing away from the shoreline.

"And therefore, unlike some of the other organizations that come and clean the sand—because they lay on the sand—I thought I should clean the bay," he said.

Kalilikane has been teaching stand-up paddleboarding

for three-and-a-half years. During that time, he has provided lessons for other groups following their beach cleaning efforts, which eventually led to the organizing of his own event.

"Up until the day of [the event] we had two divers. But then Zach showed up with his guys, because they heard through somebody on Facebook that this guy was doing a big cleanup and needed divers. That was my first introduction to him," Kalilikane said.

When asked about the possibility of more participation in future events, Barnes replied, "People are hearing about things by word of mouth, stuff like that, and even if they don't come and join us, it's probably inspiring people to go out and do things on their own."

"Everybody likes to scuba dive, you know? And people want to feel like they're a better part of the community, even if they're not working with me or my group, or with Bay of Dreams, if they're starting something on their own, it just helps everyone," Barnes said.



Courtesy photo

Lt. Col. Mark B. Clifford, 647th Logistics Readiness Squadron commander, speaks to attendants at the Hickam Key Spouse Appreciation dinner April 25, at the Tradewinds Enlisted Club, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

Squadrons honor key spouses

Rebecca Whitecotton

Hickam Key Spouses

More than 120 key spouses and key spouse mentors were recognized and praised for their support of military families and their spouses' Air Force squadrons, during the Hickam Key Spouse Appreciation Dinner held April 25 at the Tradewinds Enlisted Club.

"The unsung heroes of our military and our Air Force are our families and our spouses," said Gen. Herbert "Hawk" Carlisle, commander of Pacific Air Forces at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. He praised key spouses for their role in acting as a liaison between commanders

and spouses as families face the many challenges of military life, including deployments, frequent moving and emergencies.

The key spouse program, which is similar to the Navy's ombudsman program, enhances mission readiness by facilitating the flow of communication between spouses, leadership and base agencies.

The key spouses are volunteers who are appointed by the squadron commander to provide a framework for stability and family support by maintaining regular contact with family members, especially during times of deployment.

"In the two years I have been here, I have seen a huge

commitment on the part of the key spouses," said Col. Dann Carlson, deputy commander, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH) and host of the event. He called attention to the importance of the program and how it has helped Air Force families through rigorous training, deployed spouse events, supporting family members in emergencies, and even supporting other Air Force families who have been medically evacuated to Hawaii.

For more information on the key spouse program, or to find the key spouse for your squadron, contact the Military Family Support Center or the squadron's first sergeant.

JBPHH Airmen are among PACAF 12 Outstanding Airmen of the Year

Pacific Air Forces
Public Affairs

(Editor's note: Three Airmen from Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH) were among those named as Pacific Air Force's 12 Outstanding Airmen of the Year.)

Gen. Herbert "Hawk" Carlisle, commander of Pacific Air Forces, recently announced the PACAF 12 Outstanding Airmen of the Year.

The 12 honorees were selected from more than 30,000 enlisted men and women throughout the command. Their selection as the outstanding Airmen of the Year distinguishes the servicemember from his or her peers by exceptional performance in the following areas: leadership and job performance in primary duty, significant self-improvement and base or community involvement.

"Recognizing our Airmen is one of my greatest pleasures," said Carlisle.

"We are the greatest fighting force in the world and our asymmetric advantage is our Airmen. It always has been our Airmen and certainly our enlisted force. The kind of professionalism that they have is an indication that we are going nowhere but up."

Carlisle had the opportu-



U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Nathan Allen

Gen. Herbert "Hawk" Carlisle, Pacific Air Forces commander, presents a plaque to Master Sgt. Tim Stewart, Network Control Center section lead, formerly assigned to 374th Communications Squadron, Yokota Air Base, Japan, for his selection as one of PACAF's 12 Outstanding Airmen of the Year.

nity to present a plaque to Master Sgt. Tim Stewart, one of 12 selectees, at the PACAF Headquarters building. Though currently stationed at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH), Stewart earned the award during the time he was assigned to the 374th Communications Squadron, Yokota Air Base, Japan.

Stewart was recognized in the active duty category as PACAF Senior NCO of the Year, leading operations for the command's largest network control center during his assignment to the

374th Communications Squadron.

In the Air National Guard category, Master Sgt. Anthony Colon, the 154th Wing first sergeant at JBPHH, was named the PACAF First Sergeant of the Year.

In the Reserve category, Senior Master Sgt. James E. Kenwolf from JBPHH was honored as the PACAF First Sergeant of the Year. Kenwolf is the first sergeant for the 48th Aerial Port Squadron.

For a complete list of awardees and more information, visit <http://ow.ly/kQcag>.

Suspension to occur when traffic citation issued for violation

Continued from A-1

driving as the leading cause of accidents and deaths of teenage drivers.

Driving a vehicle while texting is six times more dangerous than driving while intoxicated, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA). The Harvard

Center for Risk Analysis estimates that texting in cars and trucks causes more than 3,000 deaths and 330,000 injuries per year. Texting drivers are 23 times more likely to be involved in a crash than non-texting drivers.

Just talking on a cell phone while driving is not safe either. Twenty-eight percent

of traffic accidents occur when drivers are using cell phones, according to the National Safety Council. The vast majority of these accidents are caused by cellphone conversations. According to research by Carnegie Mellon University, driving while using a cell phone reduces the amount of brain activity associated with driving by 37 per-

cent. Contrary to widespread belief, there is little evidence that using a hands-free phone is safe. The cognitive distraction of having a hands-free phone conversation causes drivers to miss the important visual and audio cues that would ordinarily help them avoid a crash.

All of Hawaii's counties

have enacted distracted driving laws. Text messaging and the use of handheld cell phones while driving are illegal. Violators face hefty fines.

In addition to the ban on using a cell phone while driving, JBPHH also has rules in place for pedestrians. The use of portable headphones, earphones, cellular phones, iPods or other listening and

entertainment devices, other than hearing aids, are prohibited while walking, jogging, running, bicycling, skating or skate boarding on base roadways.

NPASE created a video on texting and driving and posted it on their Facebook and YouTube pages. Here is a link to their video: <http://ow.ly/kT3mC>.